DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (c) A large number of representations from various quarters are being received for amendment of Delhi Rent Control Act on the ground that it is inequitable in many respects.

The issue raised in these representations have been taken note of and the question of a comprehensive amendment of Delhi Rent Control Act is under consideration of Government. No representation from Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chambers of Commerce in this regard is separately under consideration.

Drought relief to Andhra Pradesh

542. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any request from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for drought relief ;

(b) if so, what is the amount of money sought for as assistance by the Government of Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the amount actually sanctioned by the Central Government for drought relief operations in Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh have sought Central assistance to the tune of Rs. 326.33 crores for drought relief.

(c) No amount has been sanctioned so far.

Shelter for all by 2000 A.D.

543. SHRI J.P GOYAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are committed to the goal of shelter for all by 2000 A.D. ;

(b) if so, what are the details of proposals announced so far to boost housing activity;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government are following a policy of go-slow on housing and urban development; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor and if not, what is the progress made so far in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) Housing is a State subject and Social Housing Schemes are implemented by the State Governments/UT Administrations as per their needs and plan priorities. At the Central level several steps have been taken to boost housing activities some of which are as follows:—

(i) to monitor the implementation of various projects/Programme under the International year of Shelter for the Homeless (IYSH) an Apex Committee has been set up at the national level under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Urban Development) to formulate policies guide, observe and monitor the programme under IYSH.

(ii) Public Sector investment in Housing during the 7th Plan has been raised to Rs. 2458/- crores against Rs. 1491/- crores in the 6th plan.

(iii) Under the 20-Point Programme which is being implemented as an essential part of State Plans